IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows.

[0001] This application claims priority of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/210,510, filed on June 9, 2000 and United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. [[60/_____]] 60/270,158, filed on February 22, 2001. The contents of the provisional applications are hereby incorporated by reference.

[0137] The Egress flow chart is illustrated in Fig. 35. It is noted that there are many counters in the egress, including aged packet timer, L3 transmitted packets, L3 aborted packets, transmitted VLAN tagged packets, packets purged due to TTL, aborted packets, and multicast packets dropped. The A-EGRESS flowchart is provided in Fig. A34 36 and the ARL aging process is illustrated in Fig. 37. MltDscrdPkts Counter also gets incremented for packets dropped due to packet aging, and other reasons.

[0268] A unique feature of the present invention is seamless support for both styles of stacking at the same time. Fig. 43 shows an example configuration in which the both styles of stacking co-exist at the same time. In Fig. 43, the lower capacity devices 4302 are connected to the higher capacity devices 4301 using a TruboGig TurboGig link as a Stacking link (SL Style - Duplex). Station A is connected to a trunk port, which comprises of port 1 and 2 on the left most device 4302 and ports 1, 2 on another device. Station B is connected to a trunk port which comprises of ports 8,9 on the right most device 4302 and ports 8,9 on another device.